

the premise that bankruptcy, foreclosure, loss of the real estate is inevitable. That is one of my principal objections to the bill. I say that if it gets as far as we are at the present time, then perhaps we ought to be glad to have this other alternative. But I would hope that this Legislature will not continue to muddle around to the point that we do not have other alternatives. This is a court of last resort I would guess, Senator Rod Johnson, and as such, it may have some application and so I'll not object to the bracket motion and hope I have a chance to visit with Senator Johnson and others prior to the time it comes up again on the 20th.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: If there is no one further that wishes to speak, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President and members, I don't wish to belabor the point, but I approve of the motion to bracket. I think it's a good idea to allow people to have an opportunity to study the issue more closely, to talk to their lending institutions, to talk to me or to Senator Eret or those who have interest in this subject. As I said, my interest in this bill from the beginning was to use it as a platform to speak to a very serious problem, both economic problem and I think a social problem. And if I could do more to help bring back profitability in agriculture, I'd be happy to do that, but if somebody would show me how to do that, I'll lead the charge on it, but we haven't been able to find anything to do that right now. So I guess I look at this, not as an economic proposal, but rather a social proposal, one that is designed to try and help those farm families out there who are struggling to try and hold onto a farmstead, to try and hold onto a home and I see something in that that is acceptable to me and I'd like to see the Legislature seriously give this proposal a chance. All I'm asking, I guess, more than anything else is that if you have a proposal that is better than this, bring it forward. I'll be happy to participate in getting that adopted, but I have had no other proposals brought to me, and until those proposals are brought to me, I guess this is the best vehicle we have to address this situation. So I'd hope that you would seriously give it some consideration. I would approve of the bracketing motion till Thursday to allow people to take a very serious look at it, to analyze it and reach an appropriate decision in their own minds whether or not this is a good public policy decision, and if you have